

Appl. No. 09/475,190
Amdt. Dated January 14, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 18, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P12414/040020-167
EUS/J/P/05-6005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended Claims 22; Claim 21 was previously cancelled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-20 and 22-52 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-19, 37-41, 43, 44, 46-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Larson. (US 4,569,042).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's new rejection and submits the following remarks for the Examiner's favorable reconsideration.

Independent Claim 1, in accordance with the teachings of the present invention, recites the step of "transmitting a reply time stamp message from the second node to the first node, wherein the reply time stamp message includes a time of transmission of the reply time stamp message and the second node's estimation of a time interval." The second node transmits the reply time stamp containing both the time of transmission of the reply time stamp message as well as the second node's own estimation of the time interval as a response to receiving a time stamp message from the first node. In that regard, Applicant respectfully submits that even though Larson may disclose or teach the step of including "a time of transmission" in its reply message, it simply fails to disclose or teach the step of including second node's "estimation of a time interval."

Even the Examiner stated that the "second node 101 transmits a signal to the first node 100 comprising a reply time stamp (the time of transmission of the reply) and the time stamp of the first transmission. The difference between these two time stamps will represent an estimate of the transmission time between the two nodes." The Examiner then pointed out that the first node in Larson then "uses a difference

Appl. No. 09/475,190
Amdt. Dated January 14, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 18, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P12414/040020-167
EUS/J/P/05-6005

calculator 204 to calculate the asynchrony, or difference, between the clocks at each node."

As a result, the Examiner correctly described the Larson reference by stating that the second node merely reports its own "reply time stamp" and that it is the first node that calculates the asynchrony between the clocks at each node using the reported time stamps. Accordingly, Applicant submits that other than merely reporting its reply time stamp in the reply time message back to the first node, the second node in Larson simply fails to include any "estimation of the time interval" as recited in the currently pending claims. Also, nothing in Larson discloses or teaches the step of the first node calculating an estimated frequency deviation of the oscillator using the second node's estimation of the time interval received in the reply time stamp message. In Larson, the first node actually uses the second node's reply time stamp to calculate its own its deviation.

Since Larson fails to anticipate or render obvious each and every recited step of independent Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 1 and its dependent claims are now patentable over the cited references. Applicant further submits the remaining independent claims recite similar limitations as described above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's favorable reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

The Examiner rejected claims 5, 11, 20, 22-36, 42 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larson in view of Greer et al. (US 5,697,082). Applicant respectfully submits other than disclosing a system for self-calibrating a clock of a communication terminal using a Kalman filter, the Greer reference similarly fails to anticipate or render obvious the novel steps as recited in the currently pending claims. Furthermore, other than independent Claim 20, all other claims are dependent on now patentable independent claims and recite additional limitations thereto. The Examiner's favorable reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly requested.

Appl. No. 09/475,190
Amdt. Dated January 14, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 18, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P12414/040020-167
EUS/J/P/05-6005

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



By John C. Han
Registration No. 41,403

Date: January 14, 2005

Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024

(972) 583-7686
john.han@ericsson.com